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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The examiner objected to the Abstract because it contains legal language. The applicant amends the Abstract to overcome the examiner's objection.

The examiner objected to the disclosure at par. 23 because it contains an embedded hyperlink and/or other form of browser executable code. The applicant amends the disclosure at par. 23 to overcome the examiner's objection.

The examiner rejected claims 1-3 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Valimaa, et al. (US 5,926,769) in view of Reding et al. (US 5,812,657).

Valimaa teaches the following:

A wireless communication device 10. (FIG. 1)

"The keypad 22 includes the conventional numeric (0-9) and related keys (#,*) 22a, and other keys 22b used for operating the mobile station 10." (col. 3, lines 12-14)

"The memory 24 is assumed for the purposes of this invention to include a multi-location keypad buffer (KPB) 24a that is used for temporarily storing codes that identify keypad keys that are depressed by the user. By example, the controller 18 detects the depression of a certain key 22a, and then stores a corresponding code in a next available location of the KPB 24a. The number of locations reserved for the KPB 24a is any reasonable number that is at least sufficient to store a longest possible telephone number that may be entered by the user." (col. 3, lines 51-60) (emphasis added)

"The memory 24 is also assumed to include at least one multi-location telephone number buffer (NUM.sub.13 BUF) 24b. The NUM.sub.13 BUF 24b is used to store a plurality of telephone numbers that are entered by the user, typically numbers that the user often calls. By example, the NUM.sub.13 BUF 24b may have 10 locations or addresses, each one having a sufficient number of memory locations to store a longest possible telephone number. Preferably the NUM.sub.13 BUF 24b is located in a non-volatile read/write portion of the memory 24. The

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management of the NUM.sub.13 BUF 24b forms the subject matter of this invention.” (col. 3, line 61 – col. 4, line 4) (emphasis added)

“While the invention has been described in the context of the user entering the telephone number as a sequence of numbers from the set (0-9), it should be realized that in some embodiments non-numeric characters may be interspersed with the numeric characters (e.g., parentheses and/or a hyphen, e.g., 1-(999)555-1212). In this case the controller 18 can simply ignore the non-numeric characters, either by stripping them away before storing the number in the NUM.sub.13 BUF 24a, or may store them but later ignore them when placing a call to the number.” (col. 6, lines 25-34) (emphasis added)

Valimaa does not teach or suggest at least the following:

The keypad 22 including buttons having alphabetical characters mapped to corresponding numeric characters, as suggested by the examiner.

The memory 24 stores a string of alphanumeric characters representing a telephone number, as suggested by the examiner.

A user entering alphanumeric characters.

That non-numeric characters correspond to alphanumeric characters, as suggested by the examiner.

An alpha numeric to numeric converter.

Display of phone number to be dialed.

Reding teaches the following:

“Keys on standard telephone keypads bear the following numeric designation and corresponding alphabetic designation.

TABLE I

Key Number Corresponding Alphabetic Characters

2 ABC

3 DEF

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4 GHI
5 JKL
6 MNO
7 PRS
8 TUV
9 WXY

_____” (col. 1, lines 26-38)

“Because of the data entry problems associated with vanity numbers, there is a need for a method and apparatus which permits the entry of a destination telephone number as a string of alphabetic, numeric or a combination of alphabetic and numeric characters. There is also a need for automatically converting the alphabetic characters input into a telephone system into numeric information which can then be used to complete a call transaction.” (col. 2, lines 3-10) (emphasis added)

“In accordance with the present invention data fields are classified as to the type of information that can entered into the field, e.g., alphabetic, numeric, and alpha-numeric. In one particular embodiment alpha-numeric information can be entered into a telephone number field. However, when alphabetic information is entered into a telephone number field the workstation automatically converts the alphabetic information into numeric information. The generated numeric information is then used to, e.g., complete the call transaction.” (col. 2, lines 33-42) (emphasis added)

In step 220, any alphabetic characters that were input are converted into their corresponding telephone number equivalent. The conversion process is performed automatically by the processing circuit 14 under software control without the need for operator intervention. As part of the conversion process, the CPU 14 may access a database stored in the data storage device 15 or elsewhere. The stored database may include the same as or similar information to that listed in TABLE I.” (col. 4, lines 43-51) (FIG. 2B, block 220) (emphasis added)

Once the conversion process is complete, the data which is now in numeric form, is entered and displayed on the display device 12 in the appropriate field, e.g., the called field 22. While in one embodiment only the numeric values are displayed in the called filed, in another embodiment both the alphabetic and numeric equivalent entered into the telephone number field

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are displayed to facilitate detection of typographical errors by the operator. ." (col. 4, lines 52-59) (emphasis added)

Reding does not teach or suggest at least the following:

Store the alphabetic information after operator entry and before being converted into numeric information by the workstation.

The combination of Valimaa and Reding to not appear to teach or suggest the invention as claimed in claims 1-3 for the following reasons.

Valimaa does not teach or suggest mapping alphabetical characters to corresponding numeric characters, storing a string of alphanumeric characters representing a telephone number, or translating the string of alphanumeric characters into corresponding numeric characters, as claimed in claims 1-3. By contrast, Valimaa teaches: "storing codes that identify keypad keys that are depressed by the user" (col. 3, lines 51-60), and "storing a plurality of telephone numbers that are entered by the user, typically numbers that the user often calls" (col. 3, line 61 – col. 4, line 4).

Reding does not teach or suggest storing a string of alphanumeric characters representing a telephone number before translating the string of alphanumeric characters into corresponding numeric characters, as claimed in claims 1-3. By contrast, Reding teaches: "*when* alphabetic information is *entered* into a telephone number field the workstation *automatically* converts the alphabetic information into numeric information." (col. 2, lines 33-42) (emphasis added)

Therefore, the combination of Valimaa and Reding cannot be properly combined to produce the invention, as claimed in claims 1-3. Hence, no amendment to the claims appears to be necessary.

The applicant adds new dependent claims 4-6 to further define the present invention. Support for new dependent claims 4-6 may be found in the present specification, for example, at par. 23-28, and the Abstract. No new matter has been added by this amendment.

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The applicant therefore respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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